



May 2018

Dear Wheat Ridge Family,

Sunday, April 22, in addition to ordaining and/or installing elders and deacons in worship, we also remembered the gift of creation, since it also happened to be **Earth Day—the 49th celebration since its beginning in the US in 1970**. That Sunday was also “Good Shepherd” Sunday when we reflect on Jesus/Christ and God the Creator as our shepherd—we read Psalm 23 and John 10:11-18. I invited us all to consider ways **we could be shepherds of the gift of creation** so that there would always be **“green pastures and still, clean waters.”** We know that **none of us can do everything, but each of us can do something**. Quoting Archbishop Oscar Romero, we are reminded that **we are called to be ministers, not messiahs**. We plant seeds and tend seeds planted before us that we may not see grow to maturity.



“... God’s work in creation is too wonderful, too ancient, too beautiful, too good to be desecrated.... Restoring creation is God’s own work in our time, in which God comes both to judge and to restore....”

—PC(USA) Environmental Policy

While some in our culture **claim that Christianity as a whole is still anti-science** and, therefore, does not care about pollution, energy waste, eco-system destruction, trash disposal, species extinction, and a hundred other aspects of environmental justice, that is **not true of this congregation, of our denomination,*** and of many people of faith around the world.

At the end of this article, and pasted into the email by which this newsletter is sent to many of you (saving trees!), you will find several **website links to organizations that work for care of God’s creation** not only because of their general moral compass but **because their faith in God**, their reading of scripture, and/or their understanding of Christian discipleship lead them to do so.

So many of you are already doing small and big things to **preserve, protect, and renew this precious gift from God: our home, the Earth**. Thank you! Enabled and called by the Holy Spirit, each of us can continue to do **something**; as a congregation, we can do **something**. God is the messiah, and we are the ministers.

Peace, *Laura*

Websites to explore:

Presby. Church USA Environmental Ministries: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/>

Interfaith Power and Light: <http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/>

GreenFaith: <http://www.greenfaith.org/>

Here is a list of other faith-based environmental organizations (I am not familiar with many of them):

<http://www.webofcreation.org/links-to-eco-faith-groups/faith-based-environmental-groups>

*Presbyterian Association on Science, Technology, and the Christian Faith: <https://www.pastcf.org/>

SESSION

Thanks to the outgoing Elders, Brenda Cavanaugh, Caroline Clovesko, Ralph Hecox, Ron Johnston, and Jim Niquette for their dedication and service willingly given to WPC and the greater community. Ordination and/or installation of Deacons and Elders was Sunday, April 22nd. The May session meeting will welcome Jo Ann Flores, Maxine Foster and Ann Ludvigsen. Sean Mestdagh will continue for a one-year term. If you have been doing the math, you are correct in that the session will have 11 elders instead of the usual 12. Various committees have activities have scheduled for the coming weeks, so be sure to read the details in the newsletter.

Ruth Breckon, Clerk of Session

DEACONS

A CARING REMINDER FROM THE DEACONS:

If your family suffers a loss or illness, or you would like to request prayer, please contact:

Laura 303-422-2355 (church)

or 720-471-0751 (cell)

Church Office, 303-422-2354

Prayer Chain, Charlene Pierce

Deacon Co-Chairs: Linda Johnston & Lori Golightly.

PRAYER CHAIN – WPC's Prayer Chain is a quick way to have your prayer concerns passed on to the church family and enables the church to support you more rapidly in your time of need.

NEXT DEACON MEETING

Sunday, May 6th (Note new date) @ 11:30 a.m.

WORSHIP

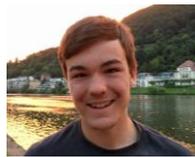
- **First Sundays are Nametag Sundays.** Everyone, please wear your nametags on Communion Sunday so we get to know the names of visitors, and vice versa. The tags are back in the Narthex.
- **Starting Sunday, May 6, more choices** will be available for Communion. On the trays, **water will be the innermost choice, then a ring of juice, and an outermost ring of wine offered. Gluten-free wafers will be offered** in addition to the usual bread.
- **May 27th is the first Outdoor Worship Service** with the **earlier worship time of 9:30 am** followed by a **10:30 am Coffee Fellowship** in Fellowship Hall. On the **first Sunday** of each summer month, the service will be **indoors** and **communion** will be offered. The other **Sundays** will be **outdoors**, weather permitting.
- **Pentecost Sunday, May 20th** and don't forget to wear yellow, orange, or red!
- **Calling Musicians—Choir Director, Katie Sakanai is looking for** congregation members who'd like to provide **special music this summer.** If **interested**, please **contact Katie.**



A NOTE FROM KATIE —WPC GUEST SINGERS

We hope you enjoyed learning more about senior guest singer, Leah Savin in WPC's April Newsletter. Here is some information about our other guest singers:

- Meet Taylor Robinson! Taylor is a junior vocal major at Denver School of the Arts. She has been involved in many professional and community productions since she was eight years old. Some of her favorite performances include *Into the Woods* (Baker's Wife), *The Little Mermaid* (Flounder), *Legally Blonde* (Margot), *West Side Story* (Jet Girl), as well as multiple productions at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York, and Carmina Burana at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House.
- Wyatt Johnson is a junior at Denver School of the Arts. He is the longest returning singer, as he has been singing with us since Advent and Christmas in 2016. Wyatt has been inducted into 7 All State Choir experiences throughout his life, including All State Vocal Jazz Choir, where he was one of 8 male singers state wide to be selected. Wyatt is delighted to sing with Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church and hopes to return until he graduates next year!



STEWARDSHIP—Sunday May 20

Pentecost Special Offering *Building a Life of Faith*. This offering is especially for Youth. On **Sunday, May 13** there will be a **minute for mission and bulletin inserts with additional information.** **Sunday, May 20** another insert with more details will be shared **and the offering will be collected.** Look for **special envelopes** in the worship bulletins to put a donation into and place in the collection plate. You may also write a check to the church and indicate in the memo line that it's for the Pentecost Offering.



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- **Saturday May 12 from 9:00 am-Noon is the annual WPC church spring cleanup day.**



The church needs your help with weeding, trimming, painting and organizing to prepare the Church property for the upcoming

summer. We ask you to bring any specialized tools (wheel barrows, string trimmers, leaf blowers, hand clippers for bush trimming) that could be of help. If you have any questions, please contact Jo Ann Flores or any member of the Property Management Committee. A large turnout will insure a minimal work load for all involved and a productive day!

Since Colorado weather can throw a few surprises, **Saturday, May 19** is scheduled as the **rain date.**

- **Thanks** to all who participated in the **Ditch Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 28th!**

WHIZ KIDS TUTORING



WHIZ KIDS ended our 2017-2018 year with a party on the 16th of April and a trip to the WHIZ KIDS Rodeo on Saturday the 21st.

Our party was a great success. We started the session with a trivia contest of two tutor teams and two student teams. It was a rollicking contest with the teams coming out pretty even. The students and tutors then snacked on fried cheese and that was followed by ice cream sundaes with chocolate and/or caramel toppings and a good squirt of whipped cream. There were plates of cookies with nary a crumb left. I am sure no student had room for dinner. They were presented with New Testament Bibles and some other mementos to commemorate their year. We said "good bye" to many of the students as they have aged out at Kullerstrand and will be going on to middle school. There were even tears both from students and tutors - including yours truly.

All of the students were able to attend the rodeo and a great time was had by all. We enjoy watching them go from activity to activity with big smiles on their faces.

We have closed the Whiz Kids cupboard for this year with a big THANK YOU to all the loyal tutors and the kitchen volunteers who make my job so easy.

Betsy Smith, Coordinator

SAT. A.M. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY/BREAKFAST May 12th

8:30 a.m. breakfast followed by the lesson.

All Women of the church are invited! Please **RSVP to Eileen Gardner** so she can bring enough study materials.



Mother's Day is



Sunday, May 13th

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WPC's spring event "**Singin' in the Spring**", was met with rave reviews,

as Kenny Orr, Leah Savin, Taylor Robinson, Wyatt Johnson and accompanist Ryan Durfee shared their impressive musical talents with us. We were also treated to a delicious Italian dinner, the likes of which one could only taste in Italy! **Thank you** to everyone who participated and all the volunteers who helped make the two evenings so delightful.

Our **youth group met on April 15th**. Everyone had a good time, starting with lunch and then on to bowling at Brunswick Lanes. The group also took time to plan some of the things they will be taking part in on Youth Sunday, May 20th. Look for details on future youth group events.

Youth Sunday-On May 20th, WPC youth will take some leadership roles in the worship service, by ushering, singing and reading scripture. We will also celebrate Karl Gardner's graduation from high school. Please join us that day, as we are so excited for the youth to have the opportunity to share in worship. (Children will stay in worship).

July 16-20 - Vacation Bible School/Kamp Kidventure/Drama Camp. Registration is now open at www.wpcpres.org, for ages 5-14, from 9am-4pm Mon.-Fri. WPC is again partnering with Highlands Camp and Retreat Center. We are also pleased that LuAnn Buckstein will be with us to direct the Drama Camp for the older children.

Grace and peace,
Linda Valo



Happy Birthday



Alicia Reeder Griess	May 2
Betty Niquette	May 5
Shirley Hill	May 9
Betty Piperato	May 9
Jackie Proett	May 18
Barbara Stimson	May 20
Carol Cramer	May 21
Rich Stewart	May 26
Kristy Mestdagh	May 28
Sean Mestdagh	May 30
Janette Powers	May 30

...and if we have missed *your* birthday please notify the church office @ 303-422-2354.

MISSION

- Meets Wednesday, May 2 at 3:30 pm in the conference room.
- Next **Cooking for the Homeless Shelter** is Tuesday, May 8th at 9:30 am. If anyone would like to participate in this mission, there is a **sign-up poster** in Fellowship Hall. There are **three spaces to fill**, as four workers seems to be the number that works best in the kitchen. For more information please call or email **Jeanne Miller** or **Betty Niquette**
- **Sunday, May 20** will be a **Wilbur Sunday**. You will have the opportunity to come forward **during the final hymn** of worship and **give a special donation** to Wilbur the piggy bank that feeds hungry children in Wheat Ridge (Feed the Future) and helps patients in Zimbabwe (Lomagundi Clinic).
- **MARK YOUR CALENDARS--BENEFIT CONCERT FOR LOMAGUNDI CLINIC**
There will be a benefit concert for the Lomagundi Clinic in Zimbabwe sponsored by Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church, on **Saturday, June 30th** from **6-8:30 pm** in our outdoor worship area ("gates" open at 5:30PM). The band will be **Nokuthula**, which performs **Afro-pop, fusion dance music** from Zimbabwe and beyond! Please see upcoming announcements for further details.



PRAYER REQUESTS & NOTES OF THANKSGIVING



With Concern. . .

Judy Liddy suffered a seizure in late April. She is now in a rehabilitation center for some time. She welcomes phone calls, cards, and visits.

With Sympathy . . .

Lyn Domenick's father died suddenly of the flu in April. They were very close and he will be dearly missed. The memorial service was held out-of-state.

4F (Food, Fun, Fellowship and Fixin')



Will next meet **Tuesday, May 1st at 8:30 am**. Please come for some Food, Fellowship, Fun and Fixin'!

THURSDAY BOOK GROUP next meets 7:00 pm Thursday, May 17

at Belinda Smiley's,

Reading: *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell

Please RSVP so, that she knows how many plan attending. All are welcome!



WPC BRIDGE GROUP – Meets Wednesday,



May 16th at 1:00 pm. at the home of **Don and Joy Tolin**. Please **RSVP to them** for further details and so that they know how many plan attending.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Thanks so much to those of you providing our Prayer Shawl Ministry. If you provide a shawl for someone, please record a description of the shawl and who knitted it in the new book. Everyone is invited to join us.

—Sonia



RIDGE RINGERS —will resume 7:00 pm

Wednesday practices, May 9th and May 16th. They will ring in worship on **Sunday May 20** and then take a summer break from practices and performances.



CHOIR CONCERT: 7:00–8:00 pm Tuesday May 15th, Denver School of the Arts

— Our WPC choir guest singers and their classmates will sing a "Farewell Concert" at their school, Denver School of the Arts (7111 Montview Blvd. Denver, CO, 80220), and they'd love for folks from WPC to attend. Last year, the tickets were \$14 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. The pricing for it this year is not yet indicated on the website.

FREE CPR TRAINING OFFERED: 6:00-8:00 pm Thursday, May 31st or Monday, June 4. Executive Director of Uplift Internationale (she's also an AHA instructor and RN), **Hannah Jamsay**, will offer **free CPR training (6:00-6:30 pm) and certification (6:00-8:00 pm) to WPC members** and also to any interested members of the **Wheat Ridge community on Thursday, May 31st or Monday, June 4**. Those interested please contact the church office 303-422-2354 or Jenny@WRpres.org.

UPLIFT INTERNATIONALE—Dinner/meeting

Monday, May 21st from 5:00-8:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

SINGLE LADIES LUNCH

Please watch for details regarding the next Single Ladies Lunch in upcoming E-Posts and bulletin announcements.



May 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		8:30 am 4-F Come for Food, Fun, Fellowship & Fixin'! 10:00 am staff meeting 4:00-5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	9:00 am-3:00 pm China Painters special 3-day event 3:30pm Mission Committee meeting in conference room No Ridge Ringers practice	9:00 am-3:00 pm China Painters special 3-day event	9:00 am-3:00 pm China Painters special 3-day event	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8:30 am Choir Practice 8:45 am Church School for All Ages 10:00 am Worship /Communion 11:10 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am-Deacons meeting	6:00 pm Stewardship Committee meeting	9:30 am Mission Cooking 3:30 pm-Personnel meeting cancelled 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	7:00 pm Ridge Ringers practice	7:00 pm Session Meeting 7:00 pm Citizens for a Healthy Wheat Ridge in Fellowship Hall	No China Painters	8:30 am Sat. AM Women's Breakfast /Bible Study in Fellowship Hall 9:00-Noon CHURCH cleanup day (rain makeup 5/19) 6:30 pm Staff party at Laura's
13 Mother's Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:30 am Choir Practice 8:45 am Church School for all ages 10:00 am Worship/Blessing of the Prayer Shawls 11:05 am Fellowship Time	6:00 pm Finance & Administration in conference room 6:00 pm Uplift Internationale Board meeting in Fellowship Hall	WPC June Newsletter articles due 4:00-5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 DSA Farewell Concert At their school 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	1:00 pm WPC Bridge Group at Joy Tolin's 7:00 pm Ridge Ringers practice	7:00 pm Thursday Book Group at Belinda Smiley's Reading: <i>The Sparrow</i> by Maria Doria Russell		
20 Pentecost & Youth	21	22	23	24	25	26
Ridge Ringers setup No Choir Practice this week 8:45 am Church School for all Ages 10:00 am Worship /Wilbur Sunday 11:10 am Fellowship Time followed by Music Committee	5:00-8:00 pm Uplift Internationale Dinner and Meeting in Fellowship Hall	6:00 pm Presbytery Assembly at St. James Pres. Littleton 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	No more Ridge Ringers practice until the Fall – Happy Summer Break!			
27 Outdoor Worship 8:30 am Final Choir Practice before summer break 9:30 am Worship 10:35 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Single Ladies Lunch	28 Memorial Day Church office closed	29 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	30	31 Free CPR Training at WPC 6:00-6:30 pm CPR/AED Training 6:00-8:00 pm CPR certification		

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